

Troublesome Temporary Road and Area Closure

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: In accordance with title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 9268.3(d) (1) *Closure of Lands (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (v)*, notice is hereby given that all lands listed below, managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), are temporarily closed to motorized travel.

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND: A recent inventory in the area encompassed by this temporary closure indicates at least 12 miles of user-created routes. Several of these routes are known to be causing resource damage and providing motorized access into areas where motorized use is strictly prohibited in the Troublesome WSA (BLM) and Roadless Area (USFS). The Kremmling Field Office has received numerous complaints of motorized use and new route creation occurring in these prohibited-use areas. In a meeting held with the homeowners group of Bighorn Park Subdivision on August 12, 2006 an overwhelming majority of the homeowners expressed concern about the proliferation of new motorized routes on the BLM public lands which form the perimeter of the Subdivision. The homeowners expressed support for this temporary closure while also expressing interest in participating in the travel management planning effort scheduled to begin in conjunction with the Kremmling Field Office Resource Management Plan Revision later this fall.

This temporary closure will protect public health and safety; prevent excessive erosion; prevent unnecessary destruction of plant life and wildlife habitat; protect the natural environment; and preserve areas having cultural or historical value until travel management planning can be completed for the affected area as noted above. This temporary closure will not preclude any future travel management designations for this area.

This temporary closure includes all BLM public lands adjacent to the Troublesome Wilderness Study Area, south to State Land Board lands which are located south of Bighorn Park Subdivision (see attached map). In accordance with this temporary closure, no person may use, drive, transport, park, let stand, or have charge or control over any motorized vehicle on the lands described below and shown on maps available at the Bureau of Land Management Kremmling Field Office. Exceptions to this temporary closure are described in detail below.

DATES: This temporary closure is effective immediately. It will remain in effect until future travel management designations are made for this area in conjunction with the Kremmling Field Office Resource Management Plan Revision, scheduled to begin in the fall of 2006, and be completed in 2009.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This temporary closure includes all lands as described below:

T. 4 N., R. 80 W., Section 21, 28, 33, and 34
T. 3 N., R. 80 W., Sec. 3, 4, 5, 10, 12, 13, 24, and 25
T. 3 N., R. 79 W., Sec. 7, 18, 19, 30, and 31

Exceptions to this temporary closure include the following:

- Law enforcement, administrative and other emergency vehicles in the course of official duties.
- Grazing permittee(s) in conjunction with existing grazing permit activities.
- Ingress and egress by private property owners (and invitees) on current main access routes to private residences owned within the Bighorn Park and Brown Subdivisions (main access routes are illustrated on the attached map).
- Access, where authorized, on the main access road to Matheson Reservoir to the owners (and invitees) of private property adjacent to the Matheson Reservoir at the northeast corner of the Troublesome Wilderness Study Area.
- A single route, described as "Pond Access" leading from Bighorn Park Subdivision to a pond approximately ¼ mile north of the subdivision boundary (see attached map).
- Over-the-snow motorized travel, unless otherwise prohibited.

Routine field checks will be conducted to ensure that this temporary closure is honored. Penalties: Any person who knowingly and willfully violates any closure order issued under 9268.3 (d) (1) shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 12 months or both.

ADDRESS: Copies of this temporary closure and map can be obtained at the BLM, Kremmling Field Office, 2103 E. Park Ave. Kremmling, CO, 80459 or by mail at PO Box 68, Kremmling, CO, 80459-0068.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dennis Gale, Assistant Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, (970) 724-3000.



John F. Ruhs
Field Manager

Date

9/13/06